after which utilization of the fund would commence. The TRAI has further recommended that both Bharat Sanchar Nigam Limited and private Basic Service Operators be directed to give highest priority to the installation of Village Public Telephone in all villages by 31.3.2002 as engvisaged in NTP-99.

**PMG Office at Jabalpur**

†1833. SHRI P. K. MAHESHWARI: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

(a) the stand taken by Government over the demand of opening of a PMG Office at Jabalpur;

(b) whether any proposal is pending in this regard; and

(c) whether opening of a PMG Office at Jabalpur would be an appropriate step?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI TAPAN SIKDAR): (a) to (c) Keeping in view various, factors such as administrative interest, the workload involved and financial considerations, there is no justification at present for opening a PMG's Office at Jabalpur. There is also no proposal pending in this regard.

**Dues from cellular companies**

1834. SHRI SWARAJ KAUSHAL: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

(a) what is the amount due from the cellular companies, companies-wise; arid

(b) what steps have been taken to recover the same?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI TAPAN SIKDAR): (a) Sir, a sum of

† Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.